

## **Gambel, Phillip**

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**From:** njohnson@fr.com  
**Sent:** Friday, October 20, 2000 4:02 PM  
**To:** phillip.gambel@uspto.gov  
**Subject:** greetings

Phil,  
Hi!! I've been meaning to get this message sent for some time now, but kept getting sidetracked.

How did closing out FY00 go? I certainly didn't miss it one bit. I also don't miss count Mondays. Things are going well for me. Fall term of law school is now well past the halfway point, with finals the first week of Dec. I seem to be managing the work load ok, but the demands are really picking up as we close out the term. This is especially true in my legal writing/research class, where we have one or more assignments due each week. Work is going very well. Right away I was put to work searching, writing draft claims and responding to office actions. This week I started some opinion work and they are lining up some specifications for me to write.

I bought a townhouse in Lakeville, MN and moved in on 9/28. I am very happy with it. It is less than a year old, with lots of windows and space (tall ceilings). And a real treat, it has an attached two car garage. It is in the southern suburbs, so I have a bit of a commute to downtown Minneapolis, but nothing compared to DC.

I love my Passat - it was a treat to drive it from DC to MN. I made it to Chicago the first day, in about 13 hours. A long day's drive is a piece of cake now, with a V6, air conditioning and cruise control!

It's wonderful being close to my family. My Mom and Dad were a tremendous help with moving into my new place and all the unpacking. (For example, my Dad took a trailer load of 14 boxes of crumpled packing material away for recycling). And a real treat - I was able to go to my nephew's first birthday party last weekend.

Here's my new address, etc:

home:  
16244 Jatos Circle  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
952-892-6179

work:  
612-337-2599  
njohnson@fr.com

I also have an email address at school: njohnson@wmitchell.edu

Do you mind if I ask you two PTO-related questions? 1) Has the next revision of the written description/utility guidelines been released yet? If not, is there any estimate of when this might be released?

2) Do any means exist to expedite the actual publication of a patent? Who does one talk to? F&R has two design patents that have been allowed. Both are involved in litigation of some sort, with the trial to start in mid-Nov. If at all possible, the attorneys handling the case want to have actual issued patents in hand vs just a notice of allowance. I have been asked to check on this. One case is with the contractors, not yet assigned a batch number.

Hope all is well with you and I look forward to hearing from you.  
Nancy